

DETAILED ACTION

Allowable Subject Matter

1. Claims 1-2 are allowed.
2. The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance.

The prior art does not teach the in-wheel motor system as recited in claim 1, which includes a motor rotor and a wheel or a hub, which are interconnected by a coupling mechanism, which comprises two hollow disk-like plates having a plurality of grooves formed on their opposed surfaces in the circumferential direction at an angle of 45° from the radial direction of the plates and extending in directions orthogonal to each other.

The in-wheel motor also includes small balls sandwiched between the grooves in such a manner that they can slide, an intermediate plate interposed between the hollow disk-like plates and having guide holes for guiding the small balls in a direction orthogonal to the radial direction of the plates. This recitation, in combination with the rest of the recited elements, clearly defines over the prior art.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

Conclusion

3. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Hau V. Phan whose telephone number is 571-272-6696. The examiner can normally be reached on 7:30AM-4:00PM.

The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

/Hau V Phan/
Primary Examiner, Art Unit 3618